



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**LAINE et al**

Atty. Ref.: **30-543**

Serial No. **09/787,629**

Group: **1731**

Filed: **March 21, 2001**

Examiner: **Alvo**

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE THICKENING OF  
FIBER SUSPENSIONS**

\* \* \* \* \*

December 16, 2003

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

**REFUND REQUEST**

Sir:

Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby requests a refund of the amount of \$180.00 which was charged to Deposit Account No. 14-1140 on August 28, 2003.

This refund is being requested due to the Examiner's refusal to consider a certain publication submitted with the applicant's Response Under Rule 116 filed on August 14, 2003. Specifically, in his Advisory Action dated October 14, 2003 (which corrected a prior Advisory Action dated September 2, 2003), Examiner Alvo noted that:

"The IDS [submitted with the Response Under Rule 116 filed on August 14, 2003] was not considered as it was presented (sic) after final rejection without the proper certification *or petition fee.*" (emphasis added)

Therefore, due to the Examiner's non-consideration of the proffered publication, the fee in the amount of \$180.00 charged to the above-identified Deposit Account number was in error. As such, a credit in that same amount is in order.

Such favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: 

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